

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT 1. Study of Russian Army Handbook by the Hungarian Armed Forces and Security Troops
2. Exchange of Hungarian Weapons for Russian Models

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1. In February 1949 the Hungarian Ministry of Defense issued the Russian Army Handbook in the Hungarian language and made compulsory the study of the Handbook in the Army, the Police, and the State Defense Department (AVH). To facilitate this study, two-month courses were arranged at the Kossuth Academy for all company, battalion, and regimental commanders regarded as dependable Communists.
2. Shortly before the introduction of these courses, a large number of Russian weapons, such as 7.62 caliber rifles, automatic pistols and machine guns arrived from the USSR. It was rumored that all weapons of the Hungarian Army were to be exchanged for Russian models in order to make it possible for the Hungarian Armed Forces to use Russian-type ammunition. The old Hungarian weapons were allegedly earmarked for the exclusive use of the civil police. Members of the AVH were to receive Russian-type weapons. [redacted] unable to ascertain whether or not this plan was carried through.

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